



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

Mineral and Geologic Resources Committee

Erin Garner, Chair; Seena Hoose; Kathy Lund

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



ARNOLD
SCHWARZENEGGER
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For Meeting Date: April 10, 2008

Agenda Item No. 3: Recommendation for Termination of Designation of Mineral Resource Lands in the Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California.

INTRODUCTION: The State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB), based on recommendations from the State Geologist and public input, prioritizes areas to be classified and/or designated. At its December 13, 2007, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted California Geological Survey (CGS) Special Report 202, which updates information previously presented in a classification report on Portland cement concrete-grade (PCC) aggregate in the Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption (P-C) Region published in 1984. The previous report was published by the California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG; now CGS) as Special Report 143 (SR 143) – *Mineral Land Classification of the Greater Los Angeles Area, Part VI, Classification of Sand and Gravel Resource Areas, Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption Region*. Should certain criteria be met, the State Geologist may recommend acceptance of the report by the SMGB. The SMGB is considering accepting recommendations set forth by the State Geologist for termination of designation of mineral resource lands in the Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

STATUTORY ASPECTS: The SMGB's statutory authority to incorporate mineral lands classification information into state policy is provided pursuant to Division 2, Chapter 9, Article 4, State Policy for the Reclamation of Mined Lands, Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 2761(a), which states:

"On or before January 1, 1977, and, as a minimum, after the completion of each decennial census, the Office of Planning and Research shall identify portions of the following areas within the state which are urbanized or are subject to urban expansion or other irreversible land uses which would preclude mineral extraction:

- (1) Standard metropolitan statistical areas and such other areas for which information is readily available.*
- (2) Other areas as may be requested by the board.*



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(b) In accordance with a time schedule, and based upon guidelines adopted by the board, the State Geologist shall classify, on the basis solely of geologic factors, and without regard to existing land use and land ownership, the areas identified by the Office of Planning and Research, any area for which classification has been requested by a petition which has been accepted by the board, or any other areas as may be specified by the board, as one of the following:

- (1) Areas containing little or no mineral deposits.*
- (2) Areas containing significant mineral deposits.*
- (3) Areas containing mineral deposits, the significance of which requires further evaluation.*

The State Geologist shall require the petitioner to pay the reasonable costs of classifying an area for which classification has been requested by the petitioner.

(c) The State Geologist shall transmit the information to the board for incorporation into the state policy and for transmittal to lead agencies.”

The SMGB’s statutory authority to consider areas for designation is provided pursuant to Division 2, Chapter 9, Article 6, Areas of Statewide or Regional Significance, PRC 2790, which states:

“After receipt of mineral information from the State Geologist pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 2761, the board may by regulation adopt after a public hearing to designate specific geographical areas of statewide or regional significance and specify the boundaries thereof. Such designation shall be included as a part of the state policy and shall indicate the reason for which the particular area designated is of significance to the state or region, the adverse effects that might result from premature development of incompatible land uses, the advantages that might be achieved from extraction of the minerals of the area, and the specific goals and policies to protect against the premature incompatible development of the area.”

The statutory authority which allows the SMGB to terminate, in whole or in part, an area previously designated is provided pursuant to PRC Section 2793 which states:

“The board may, by regulation adopted after a public hearing, terminate, partially or wholly, the designation of any area of statewide or regional significance on a finding that the direct involvement of the board is no longer required.”

BACKGROUND: The original Mineral Land Classification study was prepared in 1988. This report assisted the SMGB in the subsequent process of “*Designation*.” Designation is the formal recognition by the SMGB of lands containing mineral resources of regional or statewide economic significance that are needed to meet the demands of the future. In



1987, the SMGB designated construction aggregate resource areas of regional significance in the Claremont-Upland P-C Region in the report prepared by CGS under the direction of the SMGB titled “*SMARA Designation Report No. 5 - Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Claremont-Upland and San Bernardino Production-Consumption Regions.*”

At its December 13, 2007, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted California Geological Survey (CGS) Special Report 202, which updates information previously presented in a classification report on Portland cement concrete-grade (PCC) aggregate in the Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption (P-C) Region published in 1984. The previous report was published by the California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG; now CGS) as *Special Report 143 (SR 143) – Mineral Land Classification of the Greater Los Angeles Area, Part VI, Classification of Sand and Gravel Resource Areas, Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption Region*. The SMGB subsequently directed the Committee to receive the recommendations of the State Geologist and follow through with conduct of a public hearing, to receive comments, as appropriate.

The updated mineral classification report prepared by CGS, SR 202, presented the following conclusions:

- As of January 2006, four mines, operated by three different mining companies, were producing PCC-grade aggregate in the Claremont-Upland P-C Region. In addition to PCC aggregates, these mines also produced a full range of lower aggregate grades for such products as asphaltic concrete and base.
- Anticipated aggregate consumption in the Claremont-Upland P-C Region for the next 50 years (through the year 2056) is estimated to be 240 million tons, of which 169 million tons must be PCC quality.
- Since 1984, permitted PCC-grade aggregate reserves have increased from 55 million tons to 121 million tons, extending the projected depletion date from 1991 to 2034.
- About 19 percent, or 821 acres of the 4,310 acres of lands designated by the SMGB in 1987, has been lost to land uses incompatible with mining. This equates to 110 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources lost.

Based on the 2007 updated Mineral Land Classification study, the SMGB accepted the updated report at its December 13, 2007, regular business meeting.



Based on further study and analysis, the State Geologist has identified certain candidates or areas for termination of designation consideration.

Candidate Areas for Termination of Designation

Eighteen areas in eleven Sectors are identified by the State Geologist as potential candidates for termination of designation status because of high-value incompatible land use developments. New housing has been placed on fifteen of the eighteen areas; two areas are the site of a new freeway, and another area is crossed by a flood control channel.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector B-1 (totaling 1,560 acres) are in five separate locations: 1) housing development along the northwestern edge of the Sector, adjacent to Padua Avenue and north of Alamosa Drive; 2) housing development along the northeastern edge of the Sector between 20th Street and 21st Street; 3) the 210 Freeway crossing of the Sector in the central part, both north and south of Base Line Road; 4) industrial development along the southeastern edge of the Sector between 16th Street and 17th Street; and 5) housing development in the southwestern corner of the Sector. It is likely that this development will preclude mining of the 38 million tons of resources contained in these parts of Sector B-1.

Candidate for Termination of Designation - Sector B-2 (19 acres) is west of Mills Avenue at the intersection of Baldy Road. A flood control channel now crosses this area, making the remaining areas too small to be mined. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 3.5 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in Sector B-2.

Candidate for Termination of Designation - Sector B-3 (38 acres) straddles Mills Avenue, immediately south of the intersection with Baldy Road. Residential development now covers this Sector. It is likely that this will preclude future mining of the approximately 8.3 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in Sector B-3.

Candidate for Termination of Designation - Sector B-4 (24 acres) is west of Padua Avenue and east of Baldy Road, immediately southwest of their intersection. Residential development now covers this Sector. It is likely that this will preclude future mining of the approximately 8.4 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in Sector B-4.



Candidate for Termination of Designation - part of Sector B-5 (29 acres) in the southwestern part of the Sector, east of Mills Avenue and south of Baldy Road. Residential development now covers this area. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 2.6 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in this part of Sector B-5.

Candidate for Termination of Designation - Sector B-6 (30 acres) is a square area between Mills and Bonnie Brae Avenues, and between Miramar Avenue and Alamosa Drive. Residential development now covers this Sector. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 7 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in Sector B-6.

Candidate for Termination of Designation - Sector B-9 (22 acres) is an area south of Baseline Road and west of Monte Vista Avenue. The 210 Freeway now covers this Sector. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 7 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in Sector B-9.

Candidate for Termination of Designation – part of Sector B-10 (9 acres) is in the eastern end of the Sector. Urban development now covers this part of the Sector. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 2.2 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in this part of Sector B-10.

Candidate for Termination of Designation – part of Sector C-2 (12 acres) is along the western edge of the Sector. Urban development now covers this part of the Sector. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 2 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in this part of Sector C-2.

Candidate for Termination of Designation - Sector C-5 (55 acres) is an area north of 21st Street between Euclid and Campus Avenues. Housing now covers this Sector. It is likely that this will preclude mining of the approximately 9.8 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in Sector C-5.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector D-3 (totaling 322 acres) are in four separate locations: 1) along the southwestern edge of the Sector, west of the Deer Creek Channel; 2) in the southwestern part of



the Sector, east of the Deer Creek Channel and south of Banyan Street; 3) in the southern part of the Sector, north of Banyan Street and east of Milliken Avenue; and 4) an isolated part of the Sector, north of Hillside Road, between Haven and Hermosa Avenues. It is likely that housing development in these areas will preclude mining of the 21.6 million tons of resources contained in these parts of Sector D-3.

CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE: Based on the 2007 Mineral Land Classification update report, several considerations are available to the Committee. In the case of areas where resources have been lost to land uses incompatible with mining, the Committee may:

- (a) Terminate the designation status of some or all of those portions of the previously designated areas that are now considered lost to incompatible land uses, or
- (b) Take no action.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: Based on the information presented by the State Geologist, the Executive Officer recommends that the Committee accept the recommendations of the State Geologist for termination of designation of certain areas within the Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California, because of high-value incompatible land use developments. It is also recommended that the Committee direct the Executive Officer to schedule a public hearing to receive comments.



SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

To Accept the State Geologist's Recommendation for Termination of Designation:

Mr. Chairman, in light of the information before the Minerals and Geologic Resources Committee today, I move that the Committee accept the recommendations of the State Geologist for termination of designation of certain areas within the Claremont-Upland Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California, because of high-value incompatible land use developments, and direct the Executive Officer to schedule a public hearing to receive comments.

Respectfully submitted:

Stephen M. Testa
Executive Officer

